

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05498 031616 Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INRE-00 AID-20 IO-12 DPW-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /140 W
----- 094427

P R 030910 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9553

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5498

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SITREP, APRIL 2, 1973

FOLLOWING MSG REC FROM AMCONSUL NHA TRANG ON 2 PAR
ACTION EMBASSY SAIGON REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 354

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR II DAILY SIT REP, APRIL 2

1. SUMMARY: MILITARY SITUATION REMAINED GENERALLY QUIET OVER
WEEKEND. UNCOOPERATIVE VNAF BENHVOR DELAYED DRV DEPARTURE FROM
PLEIKU. ICCS CANDEL IN KONTUM CITIES EAST EUROPEAN OBSTRUCTIONISM.

2. MILITARY SITUATION: MOST AREAS QUIET OVER THE WEEKEND.
TOTAL OF 18 ENEMY- INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED IN 24 HOURS ENDING
0800 APRIL 2, ALL BUT FOUR OF THEM IN PLEIKU, BINH DINH AND PHU
YEN. PREDOMINANT TYPE OF ACTION CONTINUES TO BE ENEMY ABF ON
RVNAF POSITIONS. MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT WAS ABF FOLLOWED BY GROUND
ATTACK ON RANGER POSITION IN THAN AN DISTRICT, PLEIKU, WHICH
RESULTED IN 16 RANGERS WIA; ENEMY CASUALTIES UNKNOWN. TOTAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 05498 031616 Z

REPORTED CASUALTIES FOR 24- HOUR PERIOD REGION- WIDE WERE: RVNAF, THREE KIA AND 24 WIA; ENEMY, 26 KIA.

3. DARLAC SECTOR REPORTS THAT VC ABDUCTED TEN FAMILIES (38 PEOPLE) FROM QUANG NHIEU VILLAGE, BAN ME THUOT DISTRICT, EARLY ON MORNING OF APRIL 1. DESITINATION OF VICTIMS AND CAPTORS UNKNOWN. THIS IS SECOND CASE OF ABDUCTION OF CIVILIANS REPORTED FROM BMT DISTRICT IN PAST SIX DAYS.

4. FPJMC: FURTHER INFORMATION ON DEPARTURE OF DRV DELEGATION FROM PLEIKU MARCH 30 INDICATES THAT DELAYS RESULTED FROM UNCOOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OF VNAF FLIGHT CREWS. CREW ON MORNING FLIGHT SAID THEIR ORDERS CALLED FOR TRANSPORT OF DELEGATES ONLY AND MADE NO MENTION OF LUGGAGE OR EQUIPMENT, FOR WHICH THEY ALLEGEDLY HAD NO SPACE. COL. MACGREGOR, REGIONAL CANDEL CHIEF AND ICCS CHAIRMAN FOR THE WEEK, INTERVENED, SAYING HE KNEW CONFIGURATION OF AIRCRAFT AND WHERE STORAGE SPACE WAS LOCATED. VNAF CREW THEN SAID THEY DID NOT HAVE PROPER CARGO STRAPS, WHEREUPON MACGREGOR BOARDED AIRCRAFT AND POINTED OUT STRAPS TO CREW MEMBERS. EVEN SO, MATTER WAS NOT RESOLVED UNTIL IT HAD BEEN REFERRED TO SAIGON. SETTLEMENT OF MORNING EPISODE DID NOT PREVENT SIMILAR DELAY OF AFTERNOON FLIGHT.

5. POLOFF COMMENTS THAT MACGREGOR WAS CLEARLY UPSET AT VNAF OBSTINANCE. MACGREGOR BELIEVED TO THINK THAT HE IS CONSTANTLY GOING OUT OF HIS WAY TO ASSIST THE GVN IN REGULAR ICCS OPERATIONS; PETTY HARASSMENT OF THIS NATURE BY GVN DOES NOT HELP THE SITUATION OR IMPROVE GVN' S STANDING IN CANDEL EYES.

6. PRG 46- MAN DELEGATION IN PHAN THIET FINALLY DEPARTED FOR SAIGON AFTERNOON OF MARCH 31 ON TWO VNAF FLIGHTS, THREE OR FOUR HOURS APART. NO COMPARABLE INCIDENTS REPORTED.

7. TPJMC: NINH THUAN PROVINCE CHIEF, AT FAREWELL DINNER FOR US ELEMENT OF FPJMT, SAID HE WOULD NOT " RECOGNIZE" ANY PRG DELEGATE TO TPJMT WHO WAS NOT AN INDIGENOUS SOUTHERNER AND WOULD PREFER THAT PRG DELEGATES BE NATIVES OF THE PROVINCE. HEAD OF GVN ELEMENT OF FPJMT THERE, LT. COL. TIEN, IS NOT YET CERTAIN WHETHER HE WILL HEAD GVN ELEMENT OF TPJMT OR RETURN TO WORK AS HEAD OF NINH THUAN PACIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE; FROM ARRO STANDPOINT, LATTER WOULD BE PREFERABLE SINCE PROGRAMS HAVE SLOWED DOWN WHILE TIEN AWAY.

8. ICCS: SUB- REGIONAL TEAMS IN KONTUM CONTINUES TO SLOG THROUGH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 05498 031616 Z

LONG LIST OF VIOLATIONS SENT FROM REGIONAL HQ AT PLEIKU FOR INVESTIGATION; ALL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN PRESENTED BY THE GVN. TEAM CONTINUES TO ROTATE CHAIRMANSHIP ON WEEKLY BASIS AND IN ADDITION ROTATES LEADERSHIP OF SUB- TEAMS WHICH ORGANIZE AND CONDUCT ACTUAL INVESTIGATIONS. CANDEL IS DOWN TO ONE MAN (OTHER HOSPITALIZED IN SAIGON WITH SERIOUS CASE OF MALARIA), WHO SAYS HE IS DISCOURAGED BY POLISH/ HUNGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM WHICH APPEARS DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE PRG. CANDEL PARTICULARLY OBJECTS TO THEIR IRRELEVANT AND TIME- CONSUMING QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES: E. G., " WHAT WERE YOU EATING FOR BREAKFAST WHEN THE ATTACK CAME?" HE SUSPECTS THAT EE' S WERE BADLY BURNED FOR AGREEING WITH GVN ALLEGATIONS IN A RECENT REPORT, THE FIRST AND LAST UNANIMOUS ONE SUBMITTED BY KONTUM TEAM. FURTHER COMPLICATING ICCS LIFE IS BREAK- DOWN IN PA& E SUPPORT, WHICH APPEARS TO STEM IN PART FROM COMPANY' S PROBLEMS WITH ITS LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN PLEIKU AND KONTUM.

9. HISTORY OF AN INVESTIGATION: ICCS TEAM AT TRUCE REGION IV HQ IN PHAN THIET, OR AT LEAST ITS CANDEL, HAS BEEN TRYING EVER SINCE THE EVENT TO MOUNT ON- SITE INVESTIGATION OF MARCH 10 INCIDENT IN WHICH VC OVERRAN RF OUTPOST IN TAN JLEN/ TAN BINH AREA OF BINH THUAN (VICINITY AN 83.15). MATTER WAS FIRST BATTED AROUND IN REGIONAL FPJMC, WHI
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON05498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730430/aaaahjfp.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 15 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <23-Nov-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971117
Subject: MR 2 DAILY SITREP, APRIL 2, 1973
TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS, MILI, PINT
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005